



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/783,832	02/20/2004	Daniel Stewart Stoops	LUCW:0011	7494
48671	7590	12/06/2007		
FLETCHER YODER (LUCENT)			EXAMINER	
P.O. BOX 692289			ALBERTALLI, BRIAN LOUIS	
HOUSTON, TX 77069				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2626	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/06/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/783,832

Applicant(s)

STOOPS ET AL.

Examiner

Brian L. Albertalli

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 11, 13-22, 24, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Busayapongchai et al. (U.S. Patent 6,944,594).

In regard to claims 1 and 25, Busayapongchai et al. disclose a signal processor and a method for manufacturing a telephony system comprising providing the signal processor, wherein the signal processor is configured to receive a token selected based upon a composite grammar (context table 602 maintains a grammar (context) for each application 620a, 620b, and 620c, column 5, lines 41-65), and wherein the token corresponds to an entry point for one of a plurality of applications (the command word is an indication to switch to an alternate application, column 6, lines 27-31), and configured to access the respective application at the entry point (the recognized alternate application is initiated, column 6, lines 34-57).

In regard to claim 2, Busayapongchai et al. disclose the signal processor is configured to exit a previous application without receiving an exit instruction from a

Art Unit: 2626

subscriber (the first application is suspended and exited to initiate the second application, column 6, lines 44-47).

In regard to claim 3, Busayapongchai et al. disclose signal processor is configured to receive a responsive data file from a level of the respective application corresponding to the entry point and configured to transmit the data file to a telephony server (information requested by the user is returned, column 6, lines 60-64).

In regard to claim 4, Busayapongchai et al. disclose a telephony server configured to receive a modulated signal correlative to an audio command (a caller speaks into a telephone handset, column 6, lines 6-10), to analyze the modulated signal to identify a constituent of a root grammar, to select the token corresponding to the constituent, and to transmit the token to the signal processor (identify the user calling the control manager at any time from any application 620a, 620b, or 620c, column 5, lines 45-52).

In regard to claim 5, Busayapongchai et al. disclose a communications system, comprising:

a telephony server (Fig. 5, 506, column 5, lines 5-16) configured to receive a modulated signal correlative to an audio command (speech input 630, column 5, lines 33-38), to analyze the modulated signal to identify a constituent of a composite grammar, and to select a token corresponding to the constituent (context table 602

Art Unit: 2626

maintains a grammar (context) for each application 620a, 620b, and 620c and directs the user's input to the appropriate application task agent, column 5, lines 41-65); and

a browser module configured to acquire the token and to access an entry point for one of a plurality of applications based upon the token (the appropriate application is accessed, column 6, line 57 to column 7, line 8).

In regard to claim 7, Busayapongchai et al. disclose browser module is configured to receive a responsive data file from a level of the respective application corresponding to the entry point and configured to transmit the data file to the telephony server (information requested by the user is returned, column 6, lines 60-64).

In regard to claim 8, Busayapongchai et al. disclose the responsive data file comprises at least one of an audio file, a text file, a video file, and a multimedia file (audible information is returned to the user, column 5, lines 6-11).

In regard to claim 11, Busayapongchai et al. disclose public switched telephone network configured to transmit the modulated signal to the telephony server (PSTN, column 5, lines 5-11).

In regard to claim 13, Busayapongchai et al. disclose the root grammar comprises at least two of a voice mail application grammar, a help application grammar, a conference call application grammar, a news application grammar (lottery results,

column 6, lines 27-31), a weather application grammar (weather, column 6, lines 2-6), a financial application grammar (stock quotes, column 6, lines 2-6), a scheduling application grammar, a mapping application grammar (location of restaurants, column 4, lines 60-64), and a database application grammar.

In regard to claim 14, Busayapongchai et al. disclose a unified interface server configured to generate at least one root grammar included within the composite grammar (context table 602 to identify the user calling the control manager at any time from any application 620a, 620b, or 620c, column 5, lines 45-52).

In regard to claim 15, Busayapongchai et al. disclose the unified interface server is further configured to generate one or more main menu applications associated with the plurality of applications (application selection after welcome message, column 6, lines 2-6).

In regard to claim 16, Busayapongchai et al. disclose a method for accessing an application, the method comprising the acts of:

processing a signal to identify an audio code as a constituent of a composite grammar (context table 602 maintains a grammar (context) for each application 620a, 620b, and 620c, column 5, lines 41-65); and

accessing an entry point of one of the plurality of applications based upon the constituent of the composite grammar (the appropriate application is accessed, column 6, line 57 to column 7, line 8).

In regard to claim 17, Busayapongchai et al. disclose sending a data file to a user, wherein the data file is generated in response to accessing the entry point (information requested by the user is returned, column 6, lines 60-64).

In regard to claim 18, Busayapongchai et al. disclose accessing the entry point comprises transmitting an indicator to the respective application that the audio code was identified in the processed signal (once a command word is recognized, control manager 604 initiates a task agent for the identified application, thus indicating that the application was identified in the speech signal, column 6, lines 34-47).

In regard to claims 19 and 24, Busayapongchai et al. disclose a tangible computer-readable medium and a method for manufacturing a tangible computer medium, comprising:

programming instructions stored on the computer-readable medium for processing a signal to identify an audio code as a constituent of a composite grammar (context table 602 maintains a grammar (context) for each application 620a, 620b, and 620c, column 5, lines 41-65); and

programming instructions stored on the computer-readable medium for accessing an entry point of one of the plurality of applications based upon the constituent of the composite grammar (the appropriate application is accessed, column 6, line 57 to column 7, line 8).

In regard to claims 20 and 21, Busayapongchai et al. disclose programming instructions stored on the computer-readable medium for receiving a data file from the entry point in response to accessing the entry point and programming instructions stored on the computer-readable medium for sending the data file to a telephony server (information requested by the user is returned, column 6, lines 60-64).

In regard to claim 22, Busayapongchai et al. disclose the programming instructions for accessing the entry point transmit a token to the respective application that the audio code was identified (once a command word is recognized, control manager 604 initiates a task agent for the identified application, thus indicating that the application was identified in the speech signal, column 6, lines 34-47).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6, 9, 10, 12, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Busayapongchai et al., in view of Denenberg et al. (U.S. Patent 7,158,936).

In regard to claim 6, Busayapongchai et al. disclose a plurality of applications, wherein each application comprises at least one entry point which may be accessed by a corresponding token (applications 620a, 620b, and 620c may be accessed at any time, column 5, lines 41-65).

Busayapongchai et al. do not disclose each application is hosted on a separate application server, wherein each server is configured to execute at least one of the plurality of applications.

Denenberg et al. disclose a communications system for accessing voice applications wherein applications are hosted on separate application servers, wherein each server is configured to execute at least one of the plurality of applications (Fig. 1, application servers 14, column 2, line 61 to column 3, line 13).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Busayapongchai et al. to host each application 620a, 620b, and 620c on a separate server, because this would allow each application to be separately updated/maintained without needing to take other applications offline. Additionally, this would allow independent application vendors to provide and maintain their own applications.

In regard to claims 9 and 10, Busayapongchai et al. do not disclose a mobile switching center or cell tower.

Denenberg et al. disclose a communications system for accessing voice applications wherein the user can access the voice pages through a mobile telephone 20 using cell tower 24 configured to generate an initial modulated signal in response to electromagnetic waves received via at least one antenna (column 2, line 61 to column 3, line 13). Furthermore, the mobile telephone system disclosed by Denenberg et al. connects to the PSTN, thus would inherently require the necessary mobile switching center configured to transmit the modulated signal to the telephony server required to interface with the PSTN.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Busayapongchai et al. to include a mobile switching center and cell tower, because this would allow a user to access the voice applications on a mobile phone from any location.

In regard to claims 12 and 23, Busayapongchai et al. do not disclose the composite grammar used with the applications comprises a VoiceXML grammar.

Denenberg et al. disclose remote applications that are written in VoiceXML code (column 3, lines 10-13).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Busayapongchai et al. to write the voice applications in VoiceXML,

Art Unit: 2626

and thus use the VoiceXML grammar, because VoiceXML grammars would provide a standardized, off-the-shelf solution for generating the composite grammar.

5. Claims 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Busayapongchai et al., in view of Official Notice.

Busayapongchai et al. disclose providing a signal processing device, but do not specify how the signal processing device is provided.

Official Notice is taken that it is notoriously well known in the art to obtain a signal processing device if a suitable signal processing device is available on the marketplace, or to build the signal processing device if a suitable signal processing device is not available.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to obtain the at least one signal processing device if the signal processing device were available, because this would reduce development costs. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to build the signal processing device, because this would allow the signal processing device to be customized and optimized for the application.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Cote et al. (U.S. Patent 6,125,347) disclose a system for navigating between multiple applications. Pokhariyal et al. (U.S. Patent 7,203,645

Art Unit: 2626

disclose a system for loading a composite grammar of a plurality of active applications.


Lazaridis et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0002453) disclose a grammar that allows a user to switch between applications without exiting a first application.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian L. Albertalli whose telephone number is (571) 272-7616. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM, every second Fri off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BLA 11/26/07



DAVID HUDSPETH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600